

09/13/02

FACT SHEET

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LIMITING AIR EMISSIONS FROM BULK GASOLINE TERMINALS

TODAY'S ACTION

- ! The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing amendments to two final rules that limit emissions of toxics air pollutants and volatile organic compounds (VOC) from gasoline distribution facilities.
- ! The proposed amendments apply to bulk terminals that store and transfer gasoline, and then distribute the gasoline to other users such as service stations. Approximately 100 bulk terminals may be effected by today's proposed amendments.
- ! Today's proposed amendments, would clarify requirements, reduce reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and reduce compliance testing costs. The proposed amendments would not change control levels or compromise the environmental protection, but would provide clarification and alternatives that enhance the flexibility of the recordkeeping and testing requirements of the two rules.
- ! EPA worked with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to develop part of the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments would avoid rule duplication and overlap, and align the DOT and EPA rules on leak testing of railcars.
- ! EPA will take public comment on today's proposed amendments for 60 days starting on publication in the *Federal Register*. The EPA will hold a public hearing if requested within 30 days of publication.

BACKGROUND

- ! EPA issued Standards of Performance for Bulk Gasoline Terminals on August 18, 1983. Those standards limit and control volatile organic compounds from new gasoline bulk terminals. Volatile organic compounds react with other pollutants to form ozone (or smog), an air pollutant has been linked to respiratory impairments and eye irritations, and negatively affect vegetation and ecosystems.
- ! EPA issued National Emission Standards for Gasoline Distribution Facilities (Bulk Gasoline Terminals and Pipeline Breakout Stations) on December 14, 1994. The 1994 standards limit and controls toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics, that are known or suspected to cause cancer or have other serious health or environmental effects.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT REQUIREMENTS

The proposed amendments would provide the following to owners and operators of bulk gasoline terminals complying with the 1983 standards of performance and 1994 air toxic requirements:

- ! The opportunity to use alternative leak test procedures on railcars under the 1994 air toxic requirements.
- ! A clarification on monitoring flares and thermal oxidation systems used to comply with the 1994 air toxic requirements.
- ! An alternative recordkeeping requirement for tank trucks and railcars complying with the 1983 and 1994 rules, and
- ! The use of flare design specifications under the 1983 standards of performance by incorporating this allowance in the text of that standard.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- ! Interested parties can download the proposed amendments from EPA's web site on the Internet under recently signed rules at the following address:
www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/ramain.html. For additional information, visit the EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/gasdist/gasdispg.html, or contact *Stephen A. Shedd* of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5397 or by e-mail at shedd.steve@epa.gov.
- ! EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The address is: www.epa.gov/oar/.